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ABSTRACT

Papers on national networks and national libraries and information centers presented at the 1982 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) conference include: (1) "Networking Developments in the U.S. at the National Level," in which Warren J. Haas predicts the development of links between existing library bibliographic networks, the growth of local and regional computer systems, and close cooperation between the Library of Congress and selected research libraries; (2) "On the Prognostication of Development of the Library Network (with Special Reference to the Estonian SSR)," a description by I. V. Eenmaa (USSR) of a research program concerned with the national planning of library development; (3) "EURONET: Possibilities and Limits for the National Bibliographic Centres" by Christine Bossmeyer (Federal Republic of Germany), which describes the European packet-switching network and its utilization by libraries, and presents models for EURONET expansion to enable mutual exchange and utilization of data among national bibliographic centers; (4) "Network Ethic," a discussion by Lars-Erik Sanner (Sweden) of moral issues involved in library network participation, particularly in shared cataloging activities; and (5) "Role of the V. I. Lenin State Library [LSL] or the USSR in Developing the Uniform Library System in the USSR" by N. S. Kartashov, which outlines the Soviet library system and describes LSL involvement in centralized acquisition and cataloging and its impact on the information and bibliographical activities of the Soviet libraries. (ESR)

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PAPERS

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Section of National Libraries

Networking Developments in the U.S. at the National Level

by

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Networking Developments in the U.S. at the National Level

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Section of National Libraries, IFLA, 24 August, 1982
Montreal, Canada

ABSTRACT

The first decade of development of library bibliographic networks in the United States was characterized by establishment of several large but essentially independent systems with initially limited goals. The present decade will see the scope of established programs expanded and possibly the development of links between existing systems. Local and regional computer systems will develop quickly, and will provide the base for most processing and operational activities. The Library of Congress will continue to be the primary source of bibliographic records, but will work closely with a limited number of research libraries to expand the bibliographic base and to develop new capacities, especially in expanded name authority files and enhanced subject systems.

I have been asked to consider the past development and future prospects of networks in the United States. The term "network" is very general and can mean different things to different people, so I will begin by establishing the way in which we will approach our assigned topic. Simply put, "network" means linked entities. The purpose of linking, the nature or kind of organizations or entities involved and the manner in which they are linked to each other are all important questions for our discussion.

But before we begin to consider recent network history or to undertake speculations about the future, it might be useful to put American network development in context. To do this we must consider the size and scope of the American library community and also take note of related activities like publishing, indexing, and even teaching and research, because the great extent and diversity of these activities and the large number of organizations and individuals involved has determined the character of much past network development in the United States and will probably influence, even more, what happens in the future.

First let us look at the library structure. There are about 3,000 libraries associated with higher education, and their diversity reflects the character of American higher education itself. Two-year colleges, four-year liberal arts colleges, and universities that range in type from those with very few graduate and professional programs to approximately 100 comprehensive research universities are widely dispersed across the country. Each of these institutions has a library, and those libraries vary in size and program as much as the institutions do themselves. Even within the group of research university libraries, there is great variation in all of the measures normally used for comparison -- collection size, annual acquisitions, numbers of staff, and operating budget.

In addition to academic libraries, there are public libraries, more than 8,000 in all; the specialized libraries of business and industry; libraries serving government and judicial bodies at local, state, and national levels; the distinguished independent research libraries like the New York Public Library, the Morgan Library, the Folger, the Newberry and the Huntington and, finally, the national libraries for agriculture and medicine and the Library of Congress itself. All of these are part of the exceptional system of library support that has been developed for students, scholars, research specialists, and the wide ranging and insatiable needs of the public at large.

But libraries do not operate in a vacuum. They are one part of a chain of activities that constitute our information system and our means of scholarly communication. The system also includes the authors and compilers and editors who write books and create the contents of articles, texts, and compilations of data; the publishers who are responsible for assessing work submitted and for editing, producing and distributing books and journals; the abstracting and indexing services; and the many other organizations and associations from funding bodies to bookstores that play a part in our common effort.

My point is simply this. When we discuss networks we do so in the context of a wide range of purposes, of large numbers of quite different

organizations, and of a variety of linking methods. Because networks are means to ends and not ends in themselves, it follows that their numbers and their diversity should and do reflect the characteristics and interests of the many organizations they serve.

The number and variety of networks developed in the United States during the past decade or so simply reflect the diversity of our libraries and the complex pattern of affiliations and organizations that exists in our country. The evidence is strong that this same pattern of multiplicity and variety of network types will prevail in the years ahead. Libraries and other related organizations will continue to have choices as to which network they use to improve services to users and to refine their own internal operations. Further, it can be assumed that the networks themselves, as their policies and practices mature, will become more complementary and less competitive.

Historically, most network activity has been devoted to bibliographic matters and has been based on the computerization of bibliographic processes and the development of sophisticated communication systems. In a recent article published in Science(1) I recorded highlights in the computerization of bibliographic processes. That table is included with this paper because it provides an overview of the beginnings of national networking as well. Accomplishments over a relatively brief period of time has been exceptional. Very large general data bases and subject oriented files have been created, often by libraries working together. The principle of primary data bases (non-redundant, standardized records maintained and organized for control and distribution) has been established. Many hundreds of libraries are now connected online to computerized bibliographic files which they use as an aid in building and maintaining their own record systems.

While progress in building a comprehensive bibliographic system has been great, there is still much to be done. The Council on Library Resources has distributed a paper titled "Bibliographic Targets for 1984" (August 4, 1981) which describes a number of goals yet to be achieved, many of which are related to activities and services of networks. I want to concentrate today on three projects where work is now under way to give some sense of future directions for networks in matters of bibliography.

1. Linking computer systems

After several years of studies and preliminary planning, the Library of Congress and the national library networks have embarked on a joint project to design and establish links between specified computer systems for the purpose of transferring information. The bulk of the work to be done involves designing and establishing telecommunication capabilities that will allow computers to exchange information. A set of protocols is needed to accomplish linking and to provide a standard network interconnection. Work now under way builds on previously established standards promulgated by the International Standards Organization, and the organizations now involved in the project are working closely with the appropriate committees of the American National Standards Institute.

The protocols, once completed and successfully demonstrated, will pave the way for future links between computers for the purposes of transferring and processing bibliographic information, item location, and ultimately text and data. Present work represents an investment in building a new and powerful capability that will be useful in many aspects of information handling, most probably in ways not yet well understood.

2. Developing a name authority file service

Following a series of discussions in 1979, representatives from many segments of the American library community agreed that the availability of a comprehensive name authority file and access to that file through a name authority service was the key to further progress in cooperatively building and maintaining bibliographic files of high quality. The two networks with existing or planned authority control systems, RLG and WLN, along with the Library of Congress took part in work to establish system specifications; to review the MARC authorities format to assure that it was adequate for creation, exchange, and updating of authority records in a computerized system; and to define standards for data content and content designation. Network representatives and others have also prepared a Requirements Statement for the Name Authority Service that is the basis for future development.

It is anticipated that a limited number of libraries will join forces with the Library of Congress, which will continue to be responsible for quality control, to build an expanded name authority file. The contributing libraries will be online to the Library of Congress directly or will work through one or another existing network, which will be linked to LC using the computer-to-computer link now being developed in the first application of that link.

3. Online public access catalogs

There are strong indications that the number of libraries that will move to online computer based catalogs and that will provide direct access for users will grow rapidly. A number of such systems are already installed, although most are in early stages of development. In order to learn more about user needs and expectations for online catalogs, about the performance of existing catalogs, and about long-term system requirements, the Council on Library Resources has funded a major study now being conducted by OCLC, RLG, the University of California, the Library of Congress, and J. Matthews and Associates, a private consulting firm. Results of the research will be made available in late summer, 1982, but preliminary findings suggest that cataloging records and the kinds of use made of them will be much changed in the transition to online catalogs. More extensive use of records and much expanded use of subject and topical headings and terms are clearly indicated.

There are many other bibliographic matters on the agenda for the attention of libraries and the networks that serve them, but these few examples of current work serve to illustrate several points about networking today at the national level in the United States.

First, there is evidence that we have moved beyond an initial period of intense, even excessive competition that developed as national and large regional networks sought to establish themselves in both programmatic and economic terms. This is not to say that competition is dead, but reasonable competition is useful if it serves as a stimulant to imagination. Libraries and their users benefit, in the end, if service networks are dynamic enterprises. Networks are looking for ways to work together in areas of mutual benefit, and staff members of all networks are playing important roles in joint ventures to set standards and plan future system capabilities. In the first three years of the present bibliographic program of the Council on Library Resources, which provides some of the funding and guidance for these developments, more than 350 individuals from all parts of the country have taken part in the task force and committee work that has provided a foundation for much current activity.

Second, the very existence of national networks has served to concentrate and focus the attention of large numbers of libraries on key issues. Libraries, left to themselves, tend to look inward. Joined together in a variety of configurations, they are forced to extend their horizons and to consider their services and the efficiency of their methods in a larger context.

Third, as information systems change and expand, (and here I am thinking of publishing of all kinds and of new information distribution organizations) the concentration of libraries in networks, including general networks and those built around major disciplines such as the health sciences or around types of libraries such as research libraries, adds strength to the library voice in dealings with other components of the information system. Libraries, individually and collectively, help speak for the users of information and, in the final analysis, it is users that need to be heard.

Finally, the American pattern of multiple, overlapping, general and specialized bibliographic networks helps assure that the needs and interests of groups of users with special interests will be considered and attended to.

While bibliographic matters have been the focus of past and current network services, the prospects are that in the future attention will shift to access to and delivery of published items and non-published information assembled and stored in machine based systems.

Some countries -- Great Britain is an obvious example -- have gone much further than the United States in building national lending collections and providing access to them. Systems and organizations established to share resources are networks of another kind, and the probability is that the computer and communications capabilities now concentrated on bibliographic services will evolve in the near future to serve as the means for expediting access to the substance of information as well. New devices for text storage will affect publishing and distribution alike. Technology, if it is wisely used, will provide new options for preserving and making accessible information in a cost effective and intellectually responsible way.

The national networks can, by working together, help minimize operational complications for users in this new environment. Standardization of terminal operating requirements, network interfaces, and accounting practices will do much to speed the application of electronics to routine information delivery.

The governing boards of networks have the primary responsibility to see that the needs of scholarship, the public interest, and the long term performance of the system of scholarly communication dominate network policy and practice alike. If these concerns are kept paramount, networks in the United States will, individually and collectively, serve a very large and diverse set of constituents well.

Table 1

Computerization of Bibliographic Processes

Highlights

Date	Events
1961	Development of the Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System (MEDLARS), the basis for the first automated library bibliographic network. In batch mode, the system permitted rapid printing of Index Medicus, the bibliography of current medical literature.
1961	The Institute for Scientific Information and Science Citation Index established. This and subsequently developed indexes for other areas use citation frequency to organize literature and to map research progression in specific fields.
1965	Information Transfer Experiment (INTREX) conducted at MIT to store, retrieve, and transmit scientific information electronically.
1965	Conference of Library of Congress staff and academic librarians to explore bibliographic automation. One result was development of Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC), now the standard communications format for bibliographic information.
1967	Ohio College Library Center created. OCLC evolved to become the largest bibliographic service system, supporting shared cataloging, interlibrary loan, and acquisitions.
1968-74	Rapid growth of commercial online search services, including Lockheed's DIALOG, SDC's ORBIT, Bibliographic Retrieval Service (BRS).
1970	University of Chicago Library development of comprehensive Library Data Management System. This was

an early program to computerize and integrate primary library functions.

1972 MEDLARS converted from a batch to an online system, MEDLINE.

1972 Bibliographic utility formed at University of Toronto. Shared cataloging and other services were gradually developed and extended to Canadian libraries and, in 1980, to the United States.

1973 Conversion of Serials (CONSER) project begun. This activity was (and is) the first full-scale effort to build a machine readable data base of records contributed by a group of cooperating libraries.

1973 Research Libraries Group (RLG) formed. The organization now operates the RLIN bibliographic service and supports cooperative programs in collection development and preservation.

1973 Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) established. This continuing program of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions promotes development of national bibliographies and the international exchange of standardized bibliographic records.

1974 BALLOTS, an online technical processing service was developed by the Stanford University Libraries, using SPIRES.

1976 Washington Library Network (WLN) established. The Washington State Legislature supported development of the first authority-controlled bibliographic network, now used by libraries of all types in the Pacific Northwest.

1978 The Bibliographic Service Development Program established by the Council on Library Resources. With the goal of establishing a nationwide bibliographic service, the program promotes cooperation among

bibliographic services of all kinds among academic and research libraries. It funds and manages projects, including online catalog development, creation of a name authority file service, and functional linking of existing computerized services.

1981 The Library of Congress "freezes" its card catalog. Records for items added to L.C. collections after January 1, 1981, are added only to L.C. computerized bibliographic systems.

1. Warren J. Haas, "Computing in Documentation and Scholarly Research." Science. 12 Feb. 1982, Vol. 215, pp. 857-861.

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48th IFLA Session, Montreal, August 1982

Division of universal research libraries

ON THE PROGNOSTICATION OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIBRARY NETWORK (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE ESTONIAN SSR)

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Moscow, 1982

I.Introduction

The problems of national planning of library development have for many years now been considered to be highly important and have frequently been discusssed in reports delivered by the participants of sessions and working seminars of IFLA (in Washington, Oslo, Leipzig, etc.)

In its turn, the successful solution of this problem in many things depends on the existence and fullness of information upon which planning is based. It is generally known that without the exposition of future trends of development (i.e. without the working out of long-term forecasts), the optimal planning of any social system, including the library network on the regional level, is a difficult task. Nevertheless, problems of prognostication of library/bibliographical processes are to this day somewhat put aside.

In library-science literature we find only brief information on research in this field, which was conducted in Poland, Hungary, GDR, Canada and USA, but these short reports do not tell us about the purposes of these studies, the methods used in research and, finally, the findings of these studies.

In the Soviet Union prognostic studies on a regular basis were started relatively recently, in the 70s. The findings of these studies are, in the main, reflected in the five volumes of the scientific collection of the V.I.Lenin State Library entitled "Prognozirovaniye razvitiya bibliotechnogo dela v

SSSR" ("Prognostication of library development in the USSR")[1/] and in some dissertation studies[2/].

The current state of problems of prognostication of librarianship in the USSR can be characterized in the following manner.

1. The main methodological principles of forecasting the development of librarianship from the standpoint of the general theory of Marxist-Leninist dialectics have been defined.

2. We have gained experience in the use of concrete methods of prognostication (assessments of experts, methods of mathematical statistics and their combinations).

3. A group of the principal external and inner factors, influencing the development of library/bibliographical processes, have been revealed.

Nevertheless, the theoretical and methodological aspects of prognostication of library/bibliographical processes have not yet been sufficiently developed. The strategy of research and a series of unified cycles of forecasting should be defined more concretely. To their number belong: definition of purposes; gathering of information and selection of methods; analysis of the proceeding of processes and the determination of their

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1. Prognozirovaniye razvitiya bibliotechnogo dela v SSSR/Lenin State Library of the USSR. M., 1972-1975, vol.1-5. See also Nauchnye osnovy organizatsiyi issledovaniy po prognozirovaniu i opredeleniu perspektivnykh napravleniy razvitiya bibliotechnogo dela/Lenin State Library, M., 1980, 127 p.

2. Ratnikova E.I. Metodologicheskiye problemy prognozirovaniya razvitiya universal'nyck nauchnykh bibliotek. Avtoreferat dis. na soisk. uchen.step.cand.ped.nauk. M., 1977. 17 p.

Eenmaa I.V. Problemy prognozirovaniya razvitiya seti gosudarstvennykh massovykh bibliotek (na primere Est.SSR). Avtoreferat dis. na soisk. uchen.step. cand.ped.nauk. L., 1979. 16 p.

stability; extrapolational analysis with the aim of revealing changes in the existing tendencies; the determination of the main and inner factors of a concrete environment, which have impact upon the development of the prognosticated subject, and, finally, the drawing up of the comparative analysis, i.e. the study of alternatives and construction of the model of the future.

Some of the aforementioned problems were partly solved in the course of the study "Prognosis of library development in the Estonian SSR up to the year 2000", which is, in the main, completed. It was conducted in the Fr.Kreitzwald State Library of the Estonian SSR, the national library of the Republic.

2. Organization of prognostic research in the Estonian SSR. Tasks and stages of formulation of the prognosis of development of the library network.

The study of theoretical and pragmatic problems of prognostication of library/bibliographical processes in the Republic arose from the necessity of improving the library planning system and the management of librarianship. Researchers were faced with the following tasks:

1) To develop an aggregate of methods, which would permit the planning and management of development of the library network according to the formula "prognoses = purposes = programmes = overall plan = prognoses = purposes = programmes = overall plan".

2) To define the probable trends of development of the library system presenting them in the form of a long-term prognosis of research character up to the year 2000.

The research programme envisaged the following stages:

Stage 1: the working out of theoretic/methodological fundamentals of prognostication of development of the library network within the frame=work of a Union republic was concluded. We had to do the following:

- determine the initial positions of prognostication, i.e. to find such methodological principles of forecasting that could be used in the study of library network development;
- examine the existing methods of prognostication and work out criteria for the selection of methods;
- develop an aggregate of methods, which would include the elaboration of a number of specific methods and rules for the gathering of retrospective information and its analysis; testing of the "efficiency" of selected, prognostic methods, work with a group of experts and the checking of the reliability of prognostic findings (the verification of the prognosis).

Stage II: the long=term prognosis of research character of the development of the network of State public libraries in the Estonian SSR up to year 2000 was formulated.

The prognosis of library network development was concerned, with district, city, village and children's Libraries. The dynamics of development were divided into three time stages: development of the public library network in the near future (up to 1985); in a more distant future (from 1986 to 1990) and in the far future (from 1991 to 2000).

Stage III was devoted to the formulation of the prognosis of library network development in the Republic. Prognostic conclusions cover the development of the network of research, scientifico=technical and special libraries, libraries of higher educational institutions and public libraries in total.

the prognosis was realized by

The programme of research, as the organization of the employees of Fr.Kreitzwald State Library of the Estonian SSR. Mathematicians, economists and library specialists of the Republic took part in the development of quantitative and conceptual models.

3. The set of methodological tools used in the prognostication of the development of the library network.

In determining the prospects of development of the library network of the Estonian SSR from among the numerous methods of expert assessment, the "Delphi" method and a number of modifications of the "brain=storm" method were used. The main problems of organizational character, with which the further planning of the library network is faced, and factors, hindering or speeding up this development, were determined through methods of experts' assessments, which make it possible to express the collective viewpoint in a qualitative formula.

We worked with small groups fo experts (not more than ten people). Work with small teams speeds up data processing and furthers the mobile formulation of the prognosis. This factor is of particular importance if one takes into account that a number of rounds of experts' assessments, which supplement one another, have to be conducted.

Three such rounds were conducted in the course of which experts assessed the importance of the problems of the library network according to the ten=mark system in the appropriate time interval.

It is well known, that all stages of an examination are correlated and the inadequate performance of even one expert can lead to the failure of the entire examination. This is why the

definition of the membership of the group of experts and of their competence is so important. In such cases the following factors are taken into acount:

1) the expert's contribution into the development of different aspects of organization of the library network (publications, public statements, scientific research activity, occupation);
2) education, age, the post he holds;
3) self-assessment of competence.

Characteristics of competence were worked out on the basis of the listed criteria. But psychological factors, such as the willingness or unwillingness to act as an expert, a conservative approach to research of this kind, etc., which can seriously influence the results of the examination, are more difficult to take into account.

Quantitative data were received with the help of methods of extrapolation. The decision as to what method should be chosen was taken on the basis of an analysis and assessment of the base period of parameter indexes.

It is precisely in keeping with the character of charges in the past (rapid, moderate, slow growth/reduction) that a concrete method or methods of extrapolations are finally chosen. In order to receive quantitative data on the library network with the gradation according to different types, from 3 to 5 methods of extrapolations, which complement and duplicate one another, (such as the methods of invariable elasticity and cumulative growth, the logistic method, etc.) were used.

Nevertheless, methods of extrapolitation have many inadequacies, the most serious of which is that phenomena are examined in isolation from the simultaneous influence of other social

and socio-economic processes and only changes that have already taken place are recorded. In this study an attempt to combine quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis was made. The method of scenarios, which permits the unfolding of the future library system of the Republic in time coordinates with logical consistence was used. The initial data here were the results arrived at through experts' assessments and extrapolation methods, and concrete data regarding outer and inner factors influencing library network development.

Our experience makes it possible to come to the following conclusions:

1. Methods of experts' assessments and their modifications should be used in the prognostication of library network development for the solution of problems which have qualitative aspects or for the determination of general trends of development (without quantitative characteristics).

2. Extrapolation methods should be used only when stable tendencies of development are in evidence. The dynamics of development of statistical data in time serves as the basis for the choice of methods of extrapolation. The duration of the base period, on the basis of which the character of changes in time and the stability of tendencies is determined, is in every case revealed proceeding from the assessment of past situations.

3. The gathering of statistical information and assessment of situations of the past should be accomplished according to a unified form and indexes.

4. Concerning some regularities in library network development in the Estonian SSR

1. The principal propositions concerning the State character of libraries and their availability will in the future also be the foundation upon which the planned network and its centralization rests.

2. The future library network of the libraries of Estonia is identified with the library systems already created today according to territorial and functional characteristics. The library network is of stable character. The quantitative changes, which accompany its further development, are foremostly provoked by future changes in the administrative/territorial division inside the Republic, continuing urbanization and inter-republican migration of the population.

This is why changes, which will take place in the development of the library network have, first of all, qualitative aspects. Development proceeds in a number of stages, in the course of which further centralization of libraries will take place and prerequisites for the formation of library/bibliographical complexes will be created.

3. The library network will somewhat diminish owing to the continual decrease in the number of rural libraries. The network of city libraries will increase, but their growth will not be so active as to change the general tendency.

Conclusion

The plan is a law that implies action. The prognosis is, in essence, scientifically substanstantiated information, which, to a certain extent, leans on the hypotheses and analysis of the past.

The importance of such information grows as the place and role of reading increases in the satisfaction of intellectual and technological/professional demands of the population. And we have such information at our disposal. The value of scientific prognosis lies not so much in the preciseness of concrete proposals of quantitative character as in the determination of long-term strategies of management and planning. And though this study helps to foresee the development of the library network of the Estonian SSR with greater reliability, for the full realization of the potentials of scientific prognostication, researeh prognoses, should be combined with normative ones and work along these lines is being continued.

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Division of General Research Libraries
Section of National Libraries

EURONET: Possibilities and limits for the national bibliographic centres

by
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Meeting
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EURONET: Possibilities and limits for the national bibliographic centres

1. Technical details in EURONET

EURONET/DIANE is the name for the on-line information network which the countries in the European Community have built up in the last years. In this network, the following partners collaborate together:

- the postal administration of the nine member countries, which have created a special computer network - EURONET
- the leading owners of information databases who together form DIANE, the Direct Information Access Network.

EURONET, the network, and DIANE, the service - which possibilities do these components offer for the distribution of bibliographic data? The computer network lays down on the one hand some technical standards which permit that terminals of the most diverse vendors be able to communicate with each database, while at the same time only certain precisely defined interface requirements are met. The conditions concern both the technical connection conditions for the hardware and the software.

Network structure

EURONET, a packet-switching network, has been developed which is based on public dial-up or leased lines. The data flow in this network consists of so-called packets containing the control and address fields in the so-called packet header which itself indicates the originator and receiver of the packet. The four packet-switching centres (network-nodes) in Frankfurt, London, Paris and Rome, as well as the five concentrators in Amsterdam, Bruxelles, Dublin, Copenhagen and Luxemburg, and the network control centre in London control the flow of packets between the terminals and the hosts.
A mayor pre-requisite for this communication network was the establishment of rules according to which two "communication partners" maintain a dialogue in the network: for example, a user terminal and a host computer, or else the host computer

and the packet-switching centre. Such a set of rules is called a protocol. The most important protocols recommended by CCIITT (Comité consultatif international télégraphique et téléphonique) are X-25, X28, X-29. This network technology allows one to connect a single terminal through several logical connections to different host computers.

Free structure

Although for the user of the network the latter's technical structure may be interesting, the cost factor is of highest importance to him. In all countries of the European Community, the utilization of conventional telephone networks incurs fees which depend on two parameters: the duration of the telephone talk and the distance between the partners. Only the fees for so-called local calls are independent of distance. However, such a fee structure is not very suitable for data communication networks. In fact, it promotes the installation of several identical databases scattered geographically, since, from a certain distance onwards, it is cheaper to build a new database than to pay the relatively high data communication costs. The prominent characteristic of EURONET is, however, the fee structure which is based on the actual use of the network. The fee is independent of distance. It is comprised of a tarif based on the transfered volume of data and a tarif for the amount of time during which the network was used. Naturally, this depends on the transfer speed. There is no longer a geographic advantage for any one user in the Western European area. For example, an institute in Sicily may search data base in BLAISE for the same price as does a professor at the University of London.

2. Utilization of EURONET by national bibliographic centres

To what extent is EURONET presently being used by libraries? In order to answer this question, two functions have to be distinguished: the library as information agent and as an institution offering databases. In fulfilling their information tasks, libraries can carry out research in information databases via EURONET through their own initiative of by order of their readers. Such utilization of the connected

databases naturally requires that the library has signed contracts with two different institutions. First it must sign a contract with the national postal administration in order to receive a connection to the network. This contract is the basis for the billing resulting from the use of the data communication network.

Independent of this, fees for the utilization of the database are incurred. The database owners also sign a contract with the postal administration in order to be able to offer their data via EURONET. A library which wants to use these information databases signs a contract with their according owners. Each EURONET customer is entitled to select those databases which contain information of interest to him. Once the contract is signed, the customer receives a password form the database owner which allows him access to the database. Using this password, his connection time (the time during which he uses the database) is recorded. The library as information agent thus has to pay two different fees: one to the postal administration for using the data transfer service, and one to the database owner for using the database. This second fee (royalties) is also charged based on the connecting time during which retrievals are carried out. However, this fee may differ from one database owner to the other. When, having carried out the application formalities, a library wishes to use a foreign information database, it must know the special command language of the database. The different database owners (hosts) use different information retrieval systems and until now, no standardized dialogue language has been available. However, the information services and different vendors are presently trying to develop the basics for the standardization of the command languages.

So much about the utilization of databases within EURONET/ DIANE by libraries as information agents.

In addition to this, EURONET offers to libraries the possibility of offering their data via the network. In national libraries which create their bibliographies with the help of EDP, a pool of electronically-readable bibliographic data is available which can be used not only by conventional means in the form of printed bibliographies, but also in order to

create an information database. In Europe, such information databases have been created and offered mainly by the British Library with BLAISE and the Deutsche Bibliothek with BIBLIO-DATA.

The use of EURONET for such bibliographic databases naturally has several advantages. Through the distribution of bibliographic data by means of telecommunication, a new technology is created for the national bibliography. As an information service, the national bibliography reaches interested parties within the network who normally do not use the bibliography in its printed form. Thus, the Deutsche Bibliothek, for example, has among its almost seventy database customers quite a number of institutions which have not been subscribers until now to the bibliography in its conventional form. A connection to a database is much more economical that a subscription to the printed bibliography for highly specialized research institutes which have bibliographic inquiries only on an infrequent basis.

Another advantage is the on-line availability of the bibliographic data. An electronic bibliography offers possibilities of use which cannot be achieved with conventional forms. Through multi-dimensional access, free combination of retrieval terms, and use of subject-cataloguing data, the number of retrieval strategies is almost without limits. In addition, the bibliographic information database contains the bibliographic data sorted by cumulation periods.

3. Data networks and cooperation of national bibliographic networks

There are the possibilities of EURONET in its present state of development which can be summarized as follows: in EURONET a participant can connect his terminal to different communication partners (e.g. to several bibliographic centres) via several logical connections. Assuming that he knows the query languages for the different databases, he can formulate queries on-line, analyse the literature retrieved, and eventually print the retrieval results on hard-copy devices. In general, however, it is not possible for him in this system to transfer data records with the intention of storing them in his own files. Whenever participants and database owners agree to exchange collections of data, magnetic tape

or a file-transfer-procedure running in batch is generally used.

This is a very clear restriction of the system: EURONET does not offer any solution for the mutual exchange and utilization of data as it exists or should exist among the national bibliographic centres. A decisive expansion of the EURONET services would be needed in order to fulfill the requirements of libraries concerning data exchange. Before discussing the different possible models for such a network expansion, I would like to sketch briefly the historical development and the present status.

The development started at the end of the 1960's with the MARC-II-project of the Library of Congress out of which very soon a regular magnetic-tape service evolved. In other countries such as Great Britain, Japan and the Federal Republik of Germany, the exchange of data on magnetic tapes was organized in connection with the automation of the countries' national bibliographies. Customers of the magnetic-tape services initially consisted of the large university libraries who also ran automatic cataloguing systems. Very soon, however, the exchange of data between the individual national bibliographic centres developed. In bi-lateral agreements, the regular exchange of data was agreed upon. The copyright of the data, restrictions concerning data manipulation, and redistribution were increasingly fixed in contracts. In order to be able to use foreign data, each centre had to be able to

- convert the foreign data into their own data format
- organize the file up-dating for these data.

The first of these two steps was and still is required because no MARC format is identical with another one and because unfortunately UNIMARC is still a theoretical format at this time. In general, it was the objective to keep these foreign data for a long period of time, and filing organizations were developed accordingly. The storage of the data is carried out once with the aim to use them themselves in order to reduce the cataloguing work and the recording costs, and, second, in order to hand these data on to the libraries of

of one's own country. From the tape files of the first years, continually growing on-line databases emerged in the meanwhile.

In 1975, the first ideas were born concerning the establishment of an international MARC network and were documented in the Wells study from 1977. Since this time, important ground work for international collaboration has been carried out. In connection with this, the following projects need to be named: bi-lateral exchange agreement, UNIMARC test, common communication format, authority files. One step towards an international MARC network should be the establishment of the International MARC Office (IMO). The concept and functions of IMO have meanwhile been specified in a report. The tasks of IMO are planned to comprise the following areas:

- organization of the international exchange of data
- further development and maintenance of the UNIMARC format
- maintenance, development and distribution of general standards, conventions and rules.

Until today, the international MARC network remains a purely theoretical planned goal.

If one looks at the cooperation of the national bibliographic centres independent of the political and legal problems involved, the following four models may be compared.

Model I

This model overlaps mainly with the present data-exchange procedures and has the following characteristics:

- bi-lateral exchange of data
- physical transports of data via magnetic tapes
- conversion into the respective national MARC formats
- creation of "foreign files"
- distribution within the respective country

The disadvantages of this model are known:

- high conversion effort
- discrepancy between file size and utilization factor

Once UNIMARC would be introduced into the different national agencies, the conversion effort would be reduced substancially;

however, the basics of this model would not be changed.

Modell II

This model plans for a centre which would organize the whole exchange of data among the national bibliographic centres. A uniform standardized data format used by the different countries would very much support this model. The following tasks could be carried out by this centre:

- maintenance of authority files, maintenance of the data format, advisory function
- conversion of designated forms via authority files
- selection of data
- data distribution

Since in this model the production of tapes and their distribution would be centralized, the national agencies would have less work. However, in this model as well, the responsibility for the storage of foreign data including the problems connected with this would lie with the national centres.

Model III and IV

No exchange of data using conventional magnetic tapes takes place in these models any more. Physically the data remain with the individual national centres and can be retrieved on-line. Model III is based on a direct link between two on-line systems. In Model IV the data communication between the different bibliographic centres is carried out via a network processor.

Model IV, especially, is technically and organizationally optimal. At this point in time, though, it is still fiction. In the library area, the coupling of heterogenous computer systems is fairly new. In the Federal Republic of Germany, a coupling of two computers has only been tested between different university computing centres within one region, as well as a computer network within certain universities (Berlin, Erlangen). In the U.S.A. the definition of a computer network protocol and its implementation is far more developed than in Europe. In the project of the Library of Congress and the New York Public Library for instance, the

interlinking of two systems were established. The only project for libraries and documentation agencies known to me in Europe is the BIBNETT-project in Norway where different on-line systems and databases are inter-connected. The project is in the testing stage.

While Model III requires the agreement of protocols and their realization through software between two systems, Model IV consists of a complex network structure and can accommodate a flexible number of users.

Even if such a concept may possible be realized only in the next or following generation, and even if it may not actually be desired by anyone, an attempt should nevertheless be made to define the requirements for such a system:

Requirements for a network of national bibliographic agencies

The requirements for a computer network linking national agencies can only be listed here. Hardware, software, and organizational requirements have to be differentiated. The pre-requisites of the Model are: a computer network, the implementation of a node, and the coupling of host computers.

The following pre-requisites are the basis for the realization of the Model:

- communication between programs in different CPU's
- definition of protocols and rules for the transmission of messages between programs
- definition of commands
- conventions for access points
  Realization of interfaces between the different database management systems
- definition of data structures, e.g. record structure, content designators

These are only some thoughts about the further expansion of bibliographic networks, and perhaps, they are still pure utopia. Ten years ago EURONET was a fiction for many of us. Maybe in some years computer-to-computer communication and distributed databases will be reality.

This discussion shows that two areas for further development must be distinguished: the technical and organizational aspects.

At least one part of the technical complex will not have to be solved by the libraries but belongs to the tasks of computer vendors and network operators. However, this discussion shows as well that planning in the library field cannot be avoided. Recently, two models have been developed for this: an organizational centre called the International MARC Office which could be used to realize Model II, and a technical centre with the name of MARC Technical Office which mainly serves the requirements of Model III and IV. Here again, developments came to a standstill recently, due to unsolved problems of financing. In the interest of all libraries, it is hoped that these problems will be overcome soon.

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160- RE

NETWORK ETHIC

by

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Ethics is the philosofical discipline that deals with the just, the good, the virtuous and their opposites. It also examines the criteria of good and bad actions and how to measure them. The discipline can be divided into a descriptive and a normative ethics. Descriptive ethics describes behaviour and situations, trying to identify their ethical content, the normative ethics tries to establish a pattern for what is right or wrong. Some philosophers are of the opinion that normative ethics is an impossibility. I am not taking a stand either for or against this view, rather I want to stress that my paper is strongly descriptive. I refrain from giving ethical norms for library work, even if I do make evaluations of an ethical nature.

A major part of ethics deals with human beings' behaviour towards each other, either individually or collectively in organizations, institutions or political bodies. It is apparent that one could study the ethics of individuals and their interrelations within libraries. However, in this paper we shall focus on ethics of libraries as they interact in systems of greater or less complexity.

If we look at the concept of network in a broad sense - and today a network is defined as anything concerning some kind of cooperation between three library units or more - we may in this concept comprise loan cooperation between libraries based on an attitude which from an ethical state of view must be called noble. We can here observe that loan cooperation in general is based on an attitude that from an ethical point of view could be called noble. In the Nordic countries at least inter-library loan requests from other libraries have been treated very altruistically. Recently a Swedish proposal has been put forward that inter-library loans should be charged for, but the proposal has met such a violent opposition in Sweden as well as in the other Nordic countries that one clearly realizes the seriousness of this noble attitude on the part of the libraries involved. This can also be seen in the indignation which arose some fifteen years ago when the librarian in charge of the circulation department of one of

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the largest Swedish university libraries declared that his department was going to give priority to local requests and thereafter deal with outside requests as best they could.

This indignation was based on an argument which is common in moral discussions, namely: what would happen if everybody functioned this way? Here we meet the principal of reciprocity which is important in many contexts of library ethics and which has found a corresponding expression in the Bible with the saying "Whatever you wish that men would do to you,do so to them". Or to put it another way: If everybody only did what suited best for everybody's purpose an anarchistic chaos would be the result and the bad effects of this would be greater than the trouble to adjust one's action to a common purpose.

This demonstrates the fact that moral has a price, sometimes measured in ethical terms, sometimes in purely economic ones. Later in several network cases we shall see that the ethical and the economic scales have a tendency to coincide.

A prerequisite for a fully developed and efficient inter-library loan system is that each library knows what literature exists in the other libraries. At an early stage this requirement stimulated the creation of union catalogues, e.g. the Swedish union catalogue started already in 1886. It is, like other union catalogues, a manifestation of the good will to cooperate for the greatest possible common use.

All the same, it is tempting to make some moral reflexions in this context. The first volume of the Swedish union catalogue recorded new acquisitions to the Royal Library, the University libraries in Lund and Uppsala and four fairly modest special libraries, altogether seven libraries. Today the union catalogue comprises approximately one hundred libraries and it is remarkable that it has never been difficult to increase this number. On the contrary, in many cases libraries have been very eager to join the union catalogue circle and today we still receive requests from time to time by newly established libraries wanting to cooperate. I am convinced that many times the

libraries really are subject to the moral of common utility which is so well expressed in the preface to the first volume of the union catalogue "the state public store of books should be regarded as a unity; its geographical distribution should not prevent the common use of its different parts for the promotion of research and development". However, one may also suspect that other, less noble reasons had motivated some libraries, namely that one wished to join the union catalogue libraries for reasons of prestige. Being one of the union catalogue libraries and getting loan requests for that reason is something which gives a library a higher status.

From an ethical point of view this is, a less valuable attitude. One can see a similar, less decent phenomena in another union catalogue context. By producing the union catalogues of former times - I am thinking here of the volumes which were not computer printed - the editorial office of the union catalogue frequently sent proofs of the next volume to the participating libraries to check the registered records. One might have expected that the libraries would have been of the meaning that they had already done what they were expected to do, as they had sent with some effort, a special copy of catalogue cards of new acquisitions. But not at all - in most cases the proofs were read and treated with masterly thoroughness. Every effort was granted to discover and correct possible errors and misprints. I am certain that this zeal was not only founded in a general zeal for the common best, but on the much worse characteristic, I am sorry to say not unusal among librarians, namely the fear of being corrected by somebody else. This very characteristic is perhaps more deplorable than mean. Meanness is however the basis of this characteristic, namely the widespread desire of and pleasure at discovering and pinpointing errors.

That a noble goal is not always a sufficient stimulus for a noble action has been observed in another network context, namely the Scandia plan. According to its original goal cooperating libraries should divide the acquisition of certain literature between themselves, so that e.g. one

library should try to acquire South-American literature, another one East-Asian literature etc. The plan never worked quite well in this respect, and one used to say that the reason for this was that no special funding was made for the purpose. Strictly speaking this is a bad argument, the idea of the plan was namely not to bring more money into the system but to better use the existing money, thus getting a better coverage of literature. No, the failure can be explained by the fact that the libraries did not feel that the general benefits derived from the plan were strong enough to stimulate their own contributions. When the first enthusiasm was gone libraries started to weigh very greedily benefit against its price. It was no longer a question of general moral and solidarity.

Since the very beginning of the seventies there has been a computerized cooperative library system called LIBRIS in Sweden. It was primarily constructed for the benefit of Swedish research libraries. I have been involved with this system from its very start - as an adviser, as a user and now as responsible for its daily operation. Throughout there have been ample opportunities to make moral reflexions more or less of the same kind as have been described above in connection with this system.

An EDP system of the LIBRIS type, that is a cooperative system built up around one common data base, has its very special problems. These problems are occuring in the establishment of the data base and in traffic into and out of it. If one looks at a common documentation data base it is generally created and updated by someone - an institution, an organization or the like. Someone - the same institution, an information central, etc - offers the data base for common use according to certain fixed lines and conditions. Other people can use the data base and can certainly also be annoyed at its structure and contents, but one must accept it or reject it. If we want to buy the service of the base as it is we accept it, otherwise we do not. There is no more morality in such a decision than in the attitude to the kitchen and the service of a certain restaurant.

It is a different matter with the common database, created and used by a large network family. The purpose of the data base and the system is fairly clear. Instead of producing printed union catalogues by a slow procedure one prefers to quickly get information about the literature which is kept by participating libraries by means of an on-line data base. Besides the union catalogue function the data base also has functions as a local library catalogue or, at least, generates catalogue cards and lists of new acquisitions. From the ethical point of view this function is less interesting.

Something which was very apparent when the base started to be built up is the pleasure of finding errors. A person who enjoys faultfinding is of course in an ideal situation when he or she can scrutinize catalogue records of other librarians by means of a data terminal, nearly at the moment of their creation. He or she hits the errors and shortcomings like a sharp-eyed hawk. This behaviour was more common in the beginning of the system than it is now, and it is even so that the central system has worked here in a very positive direction. Generally it seems as if there is an increased tolerance to other peoples' way of working and thinking, and this must be considered as progress, from an ethical point of view.

One of the advantages with a common system for cataloguing is that no bibliographic item need to be thoroughly catalogued more than once. In Sweden this kind of thorough cataloguing is called primary cataloguing. When the library acquires a book, already catalogued and recorded in the base, its cataloguing effort restricts itself to the addition of local information, this is called secondary cataloguing. From this one might fear that the libraries would restrain their own cataloguing as much as possible to be able to rely on other libraries' primary cataloguings. As far as I can see nothing of this sort has happened. I refrain from speculating about the reason for this, if it is the libraries' solidarity with each other and with the system, or if there are other reasons. One reason can be that the routines could be to awkward with books standing on the shelf, waiting for

other libraries to catalogue them.

The situation described above pertains to a situation in which no costs for the system and the traffic of the system are visible for the participating libraries - even if the costs are there. When the participants suddenly are debited for the costs the situation changes. One might imagine that even the ethical behaviour will change. How it changes depends in its turn on how the costs are debited. For the time being LIBRIS has an agreement with DAFA, the state service agency, which runs the system. This agreement is based on the difference between fixed and variable costs. Besides the fixed costs for staff, memory capacity, lines etc the Royal Library pays for the use of the data base per terminal transaction - one sum per searched transaction, a somewhat larger sum per recording transaction. During the last fiscal year, ending the 30th of June, the Royal Library has mainly only conveyed this charging of the transactions further to the libraries. It is interesting to observe that this has not at all or at least very insignificantly effected the behaviour of the participating libraries, neither from a moral nor from any other point of view.

It could be- but it is by no means proved - that the inclination of correcting errors is furtherly restrained by debited transactions. If one already has learnt a certain restriction regarding criticizing and correcting other librarians cataloguings this restriction is likely to grow still greater when one knows that the correction may cost some money.

But here we have another dilemma, a moral economic one. A certain tolerance of minor errors in a catalogue record seems to be recommendable but there is a limit for this tolerance. For instance errors which influence search keys or filing order can not be tolerated. A library that discovers such errors, is forced to correct them. This may lead to conflicts between the libraries. Perhaps one library is especially anxious to get its books quickly recorded in the system.

This can lead to quick but inaccurate cataloguing, which frustrates other libraries making secondary cataloguings. They are caused both trouble and expense in correcting the inaccurate primary record.

This dilemma may be deepened with the more sophisticated debiting system which will be used from the 1st of July this year. According to this system a primary cataloguing record is rewarded with a bonus of about 3 $. The bonus is enabled by raising prices of transactions. This may strengthen the tendency of the libraries to speed up their cataloguing with the negative consequences described above.

This is also the cause of other reflexions of ethical-economic character. Can for instance a bonus rewarded primary cataloguing be of any level of simplicity. From the point of view of the single library the level of detail of cataloguing should be as low as possible - or rather, on an optimally low level. As far as the system will support such an ambition, honest as it is, it should accept a simple but correct cataloguing as satisfactory. Maybe the system should even give a higher reward to low level cataloguing if the institution, responsible for the system, also shoulders a responsibility to the working situation of the participating libraries. Probably, this would not be accepted by the majority of the participating libraries. The most common attitude is likely to be that thorough and complete cataloguing should be rewarded and that such bibliographical information should be the kind of component from which the data base is being built.

We have said that the cooperative system has at least two main bibliographical functions: to serve as a union catalogue, and to serve as a local library catalogue or at least providing it with catalogue cards. What then is the attitude of the system to records which are solely of local interest, bibliographical information which goes into or out of the system from and to one and the same library. How should the system react, when the libraries, hoping for bonus, enter records which should not have been entered and which they normally

would not have entered. For the local list of newly acquired literature records are perhaps registered which normally would not have encumbered their own local card catalogue. Are records like this to be rewarded by bonus?

As the debiting system of LIBRIS is constructed there is no possibility to make the distinctions which would be needed to exclude such categories from bonus reward which has been mentioned above. We have to suppose that the libraries are acting morally and with solidarity, and we must assume that most of the information which the libraries find reason to put in enriches the common data base. We have a special case as far as the older literature is concerned. Generally, the LIBRIS libraries have started their updating of the data base as from the middle of the 70's. Retrospective cataloguing has not been made. Recently a library requested us to allow entries pertaining to newly acquired older literature. It is easy to understand that the library in question wants to avoid two different procedures for the production of bibliographical information and catalogue cards. But for the union catalogue function of the system the older literature is hardly attractive because it already exists in other older catalogues.

Another problem, which is often discussed together with cooperative systems, is the ownership rights of records put into the common data base, a juridical rather than moral question. One can claim that a record entered by a library mobilizing intellectual and other kinds of efforts should be this library's property for ever, even if it has been paid for with a certain amount of bonus money. But what happens if another library uses the first record for a secondary cataloguing adding its local information, shelf, marks etc? Has it then also taken part of the intellectual ownership of the record? Or what about the record made on the basis of foreign bibliographical information and put into the system at common expense. In LIBRIS we have several English and American MARC-records just for this purpose and thus this problem may arise, who owns the record?

The question of record ownership has recently comeup in the

LIBRIS system but it seems less complicated than it first appeared. LIBRIS is a totally state-owned system, its construction and use are paid for by state funds, although the funds come from different sources. Under these circumstances the common data base should be considered a common resource and the records of the base viewed as the property of the state. If one library wants to use records in the data base this should be a matter for negotiations between the library, its governing body, and the Royal Library. In this case it is more interesting to ask for what purpose these records are to be used.

Most probable is that a library wants to take out all the records dealing with its local holdings and to process them in different ways, for example searching by a local IR-system. The possibilities of local processing grows in pace with stronger and cheaper mini- and micro-computers. Records which are taken out of the system may also be used in other cooperative systems, e.g. systems with a certain subject orientation or with another geographical coverage.

Whatever the purpose may be, it is apparent that here is a conflict between individual and general interests, which has both moral and economic features. There is nothing to say about the fact that a single library processes its data locally if it is done at lower costs, and under the condition that the union catalogue function of the central system does not suffer. There is, however, a danger that those libraries who have enough know-how and resources and a sufficient volume of material which is going to be treated, leave the system. Remaining with the system are only a number of smaller and weaker libraries for which the central system also in the future is functioning both as a union catalogue and a local catalogue. For their part the central system has to go on maintaining and developing routines which grow comparatively more expensive the more the working area decreases.

It is of no use to appeal to the libraries' sence of solidarity to make them stay with the system. In today's situation no library can afford to be moral for morality's sake. The problem must be solved by marrying economic and ethical arguments. Solidarity must be profitable, not only in the form of a good conscience but also in the form of money.

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ROLE OF THE V.I.LENIN STATE LIBRARY OF THE USSR IN DEVELOPING THE UNIFORM LIBRARY SYSTEM IN THE USSR

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The consolidation of the so=called "central" functions of national libraries (NL), their relations with library and information agencies within the NATIS frame=work and their impact upon them is the leading current trend in the development of libraries of this type. This trend manifests itself to this or that degree in the majority of countries and concerns, in any event, the main functions and aspects of activity of the NL, which solve this problem through both conventional methods and computerization.

This tendency is clearly manifest in the "transformation of the national library concept", the comprehension of its principal purposes and functions, that was observed in the 60s and 70s (see, for example, definitions adopted by Unesco (1970); meetings of directors of NL in Lausanne (1976); suggestions which were worked out on the basis of the international comparative study "Typological characteristics of the national library in socialist society")+.

The analysis of the aforementioned definitions permits us to reach the conclusion that it is only the approach to the NL as to a central unit of the uniform system of library service that gives a methodologically sound and correct understanding of the different aspects of its activity.

The library system of every country represents an aggregate of different library networks. In the USSR this system is made up of networks of state public libraries, trade=union, technical and agricultural libraries, libraries of the USSR Academy of Sciences, of higher educational institutions, etc.

+"Unesco Bulletin for Libraries", 1977, vol.3, No.1, p.2-25; "Bibliotekovedeniye i bibliografiya za rubezhom", 1978, No.69, p.21-24.

It is most important that the question dealing with library networks is being discussed by the Section of national libraries because the role of the NL in the creation of a truly uniform library system on the basis of different library networks is great and the significance of this particular function of the NL continues to grow.

Going by the experience of the V.I.Lenin State Library (LSL) and NL of other socialist countries, we can say that the role played by the NL in the development of a country's library system is, to a decisive degree, connected with its functions as of a leading scientific research institution in the field of librarianship and of a scientific and methodological centre for the libraries of the country. The recognition of the fact that these functions are dominant for the NL of the type described above, permits the NL to stimulate the rise of the level of library service in the country neither incidentally nor causally, but purposefully, on a planned basis.

In the performance of these functions, which permit the NL of socialist countries to be real centres of the national library system, the LSL is supported by the harmonious system of scientific and methodological guidance of librarianship, which has been developed in the USSR; this system covers libraries of all departments and levels and operates on a coordinated basis.

Besides the LSL, the central specialized and departmental libraries, the sphere of influence of which covers an appropriate library network (technical, agricultural, academic libraries, libraries of institutions of highes learning, etc.), also function as methodological centres.

In the year, when the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR, is being marked and the results of the realization of Lenin's national policy in the field of librarianship and Lenin's project for the planned building up of a uniform library network are being reviewed, it is necessary to emphasize the important role which state libraries of the Union republics and the regional libraries play in the system of methodological guidance of librarianship. Their sphere of influence covers libraries of the appropriate regions. It is with their help that the recommendations of the LSL are corrected as regards their national or regional specificity and then brought to the notice of district, city and village libraries.

We shall now examine in what concrete ways does the purposeful influence of the LSL makes itself known in the uniform library system of the USSR and the correlated development of different library networks.

Planning of the national library system, standardization.

The socialist planning system creates extremely favourable conditions for the participation of the national library in the overall planning of the library system and its various aspects. On the instructions of all methodological library centres of the USSR Ministry of Culture, and with their collaboration, the LSL organizes the collective preparation of drafts of long=term and intermediary plans and programmes for the development of librarianship on a State=wide basis.

The Library also prepares coordinated plans of scientific and methodological activities, recommendatory manuals and programmes of interlibrary loan; all these documents are of State=

wide importance.

In the late 70s, the LSL worked on the project 'Main trends of development of librarianship in the country in 1981-85 and up to 1990".

Such plans and projects are further approved by the State Interdepartmental Library Committee, attached to the USSR Ministry of Culture, and thus acquire an obligatory character for libraries of all systems and departments. In work of this kind, the LSL is guided by the instructions of a more general character, the results of scientific research and the analysis of progressive experience.

A correlated system of five=year and annual plans on different levels and of different importance (All=Union, regional, departmental and local) is then created on the basis of the document "Main trends...", which defines the major aspects of coordinated development of library networks for the coming decade.

The most important tendency, which is taken into account by the LSL when preparing long=term and intermediary programmes for the development of librarianship, is identified with the consolidation of integration between interlibrary networks and the expansion of cooperation of libraries with publishing=houses and information agencies.

The necessity of coordinated planning of activities of libraries, information bodies and publishing=houses, provoked by the ever increasing number of publications, the growing sophistication of information demands of industry, scientific, technical, social and cultural progress, the establishment of information retrieval systems and intensive use of means of automation and mechanization called for the creation of a uniform system of

standards "SIBID" ("Standards in the field of information, librarianship and publishing") and the development and approval of the "Programme of complex standardization... SIBID for 1980, 1981-1985".

As of January 1, 1982, the number of State standards in the system ran to 34.

According to the "Programme of complex standardization. SIBID for 1981-1985", which has been approved as a part of the State plan, over 40 new standards, including those that are connected with computerized processing and use of information, shall be worked out in the 11th five=year=plan period.

As the central agency for standardization in the field of librarianship, the Lenin State Library renders organizational and methodological assistance to those libraries, which develop standards; it also supervises the introduction and observance of standards and this raises its role in the overall planning of the library system.

Scientific development and introduction of new methods of organization of the Soviet library system.

The LSL also has active impact upon the raising of the level of activity of libraries through the introduction of new methods of organization of the Soviet library system. Today the centralization of the network of State public libraries is considered to be the main achievement in this field.

The contribution of the LSL, methodological centres of different levels and library management bodies was particularly impressive in the reorganization of the library network on the principles of centralization, which was carried out in the shor-

test time (from 1974 to 1980). The main feature of scientific and methodological activity in this area was that the theoretical, methodological and organizational work was planned and conducted as a single correlated process. The entire process of reorganization was based on sound methodological principles. Regulations and methodological aids were worked out on a scientific basis. The training of personnel and the preparing of libraries for work in new conditions were also founded on scientific findings.

The theoretical substantiation of the necessity of establishing interdepartmental library systems was supported by an appropriate experiment. The experimental examination of the amalgation of libraries belonging to the USSR Ministry of Culture and the trade=unions will, undoubtedly, help us to gradually find new ways in the transition to the centralization of libraries of different types and affiliation.

A prospective trend in the improvement of the organization of librarianship through the consolidation of cooperation between libraries of all systems and departments is the creation of library unions within the frame=work of territorial industrial complexes. These trends in the improvement of librarianship has been theoretically and experimentally tested in the practice of libraries of Siberia and the Far East. In the near future the LSL will have to work out models of library/territorial complexes of different types and study the mechanism of their functioning.

The influence of the LSL on the improvement of organization of the library system and the raising of the effectiveness of usage of library resources on a country=wide basis has manifested itself in the development of scientific grounds for the

overall State system of depository storage of collections of research libraries and in the methodological and organizational guidance of its pragmatic introduction.

Recommendatory bibliography and scientific/methodological aids as means of influencing the content of library activities

In conditions, when the individual is actively influenced by the means and channels of mass media, the selectivity of reading increases. In other words the reader is now more particular in his choice of books. That is why, when speaking of the conceptual aspects of activity of the LSL as regards other libraries of the country, we should, first of all, underscore the importance of work involved with the dissemination of information on the finest printed matter. General bibliography, and recommendatory bibliography in particular, are an important and effective means of information of this kind.

Since 1940 the LSL is developing as the State centre of recommendatory bibliography. It annually puts out from 20 to 30 recommendatory indexes of literature. Scientific research, conducted by the Library, allows it to correctly orient itself in the purposes of publications, in methods of revealing their contents and forms of bringing books and readers together.

Today scientific/methodological work in the field of recommendatory bibliography is conducted by the Lenin State Library along the following two lines: assistance rendered to central, republican and regional libraries in the creation of a system of bibliographical aids and assistance offered to public libraries in the use of methods of recommendatory bibliography in the process of reading guidance. The coordination of acti-

vities of libraries, which is achieved through the development of cumulative long-term plans for the publication of recommendatory bibliographical aids and the analysis of their implementation, is a very important aspect of methodological assistance. A traditional aspect of coordination is the joint work of the LSL and the State libraries of the Union republics in the compilation of indexes of literatures of the peoples of the USSR, which help libraries to promote internationalization of reading and mutual enrichment and interpenetration of cultures of the peoples of the USSR.

The promotion of library book usage with the aim of raising the cultural level of working people and their professional knowledge, the development of the creative potentials of people was and continues to be the main purpose of all scientific and methodological activities of the LSL. It publishes methodological materials containing recommendations on the servicing of different categories of readers (workers, students, specialists engaged in national economy, children, etc.). The Library also prepares materials, which popularize socio-political literature, fiction, publications in the field of natural science and literature dealing with art. Special aids, dealing with different forms of individual and group activities, methods of developing readers' interests and the expansion of the scope of literature they read are also put out.

The LSL orients libraries towards the improvement of the system and methods of book propaganda, including the wider use of periodical publications, radio, television and other current technical means, the expansion of the sphere of influence of libraries and the transformation of them into centres of

intellectual and cultural communication of the population and into information centres.

The incessantly increasing sophistication of the tasks of teaching and training of the growing generation calls for a greater contribution of libraries into this process.

It is the duty of the LSL, as of the All-Union scientific and methodological centre, to provide libraries, which serve children (independent children's libraries, trade-union, city and village libraries belonging to the system of the USSR Ministry of Culture and school libraries of the Ministry of Education) with scientifically substantiated recommendations dealing with the guidance of children's reading that have been tested in pedagogical practice. It also popularizes and introduces the best methods of work with books among children. It is with this aim in the view that the Scientific/Methodological Department of the Lenin State Library has been putting out the yearbooks "In aid of children's and school libraries" and other materials for over 15 years now. One of the major aspects of this work is the creation of a uniform system of children's library service in the country. Currently, together with the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, a uniform model programme of library and bibliographical knowledge, intended for all schools and children's libraries of the country, is being developed.

In order to choose optimal ways of assisting the libraries of the country in their endeavour to improve the content of their work, studies concerned with reading and reading interests and the effectiveness of different forms and methods of book propaganda are carried out under the guidance of the LSL. Apart from consistent research of this aspect of the leading social and professional groups of Soviet society in cities and urban dist-

ricts, the study "Dynamics of reading and readers' demand in public libraries" is also being conducted. This project represents a regularly operating service of statistical and sociological information the data of which are used when making operative decisions or identifying the perspective tendences of development of book demand and the role of public libraries in its satisfaction.

Assistance rendered in acquisition of library collections

A correctly organized system of relations between libraries, publishing houses and book-trade agencies plays an important role in the fuller satisfaction of popular demand. It is the task of the Lenin State Library to stimulate the publishing industry and the book trade in such a way that they would come closer to the meeting of requirements of the population. The Library also seeks to create incentive for these agencies to more fully carry out the orders of libraries. The LSL aims to consolidate the role of libraries in the formation of the book flow, as regards structure, repertory and runs.

One of the forms of centralized book provision is the "Bibliotechnaya Seriya" ("Library Series"), the contribution of which into the regulation of the provision of libraries with new books is impressive. The State Committee for Publishing, the USSR Ministry of Culture and the LSL take part in the publishing and delivery of books covered by the "LS". The Lenin State Library selects books for publication, reveals books, which are in the greatest demand and prepares lists of books, which should be reprinted within the "LS" frame-work. During the period of its existence (since 1973), libraries have received

over 500 titles of books with runs up to 500 mill.copies.

The creation of a uniform system of library collections in the country as a whole and in the appropriate regions is supported by the activities of the LSL involving the working out of the main body of the book collection of the centralized system, normatives of annual replenishment of collections in different subject fields, the rational distribution of book collections; pragmatic introduction of models of the depository system for regions with different library network structures; improvement of book provision of universal research libraries; introduction of State standards for the main units in library collections, etc.

The Lenin State Library also renders appreciable assistance to libraries in the intensification of usage of collections through the coordination of the building up of libraries belonging to different departments, expansion of book exchange and the interlibrary loan, the revealing and popularization of library collections with the help of the entire aggregate of means (open access; the catalogue system, which combines conventional card and printed catalogues with machine readable formats; information on recent acquisitions; union catalogues of regions; handbooks, etc.).

In the practice of the Lenin State Library, involving the guidance of acquisition policies, the following principal directions can be distinguished:

- preparation of summarized and reliable information needed for the making of decisions as regards the development of collections, inadequacies, questions of usage; the working out of drafts of normative documents regulating the building up of collections;

- research with the aim of computing library stocks;
- methodological aid in the building up of collections of State, public and other libraries; centralized acquisition of public libraries, based on the All-Union library series; regular centralized methodological and bibliographical assistance rendered to public libraries in the primary selection of literature, based on recommendations contained in plans of publishing houses;
- stimulation of the publishing policy in the country in the interests of libraries through proposals supplementing current and long-term plans of publishing and reprinting of literature;
- organization of interaction of libraries of all systems and departments in the acquisition and use of literature (the interlibrary loan system, depositories, the Central Book Stock of Exchange of the LSL; coordination of acquisition of domestic literature and publications in the national languages between the LSL and the State libraries of the Union republics; development of a model thematic and typological acquisition plan; coordinated acquisition of foreign literature, etc.).

Participation of the LSL in centralized cataloging of publications

In order to provide public libraries with information on new literature and to intensify the usage of their collections a new form of centralized cataloging, i.e. cataloging-in-publication (the publication of the model annotated cataloging card and the library index in the book) was introduced in the Soviet

Union in 1960. Publishing houses are obliged to print the bibliographical description, annotation, classification indexrx xes, author number and library index (in accordance with approved documents, which are valid in law) on the back of the title page or at the close of the book.

In keeping with its statutes, the Lenin State Library acts as the All=Union methodological centre for cataloging=in=publication. In accordance with the duties with which it is charged, the Library regularly prepares instructive and methodological materials and surveys of the activities of publishing houses connected with cataloging=in=publication, which are intended for regional methodological centres and publishing agencies.

Currently, as the result of joint activities of publishing houses and methodological centres, 195 publishing houses of the country print the model annotated catalogue card and the library index in their publications. This ensures the uniformity of classification and the bibliographic description for public libraries on a country=wide scale.

The reproduction of model annotated catalogue cards and simultaneous delivery of books and catalogue cards is being organized on the basis of library collectors (library book supply agencies).

Impact of the LSL on information and bibliographical activities of libraries of the country.

The impact of the Lenin State Library on the country's libraries is also manifest in the information and bibliographical areas. In this respect the relatively new aspects of the Library's activity are particularly significant. They are connected

with the role played by the Library in the organization of the system of regional information; information support of the ideological activities of party and state bodies involving the creation of a special system of information on culture and art on the basis of libraries.

The attention that the Library gives to the working out of a general concept of creation of a uniform system of regional bibliographical information is foremostly connected with the importance of the territorial principle in the development of economics, and management of socialist economics, and the combination of this principle with the principle of specialized formation of territorial/industrial complexes. The concept "regional bibliography" covers the preparation, dissemination and use of bibliographical information, which is intended to help promote the socio-economic development of a region.

Within this context the LSL accomplishes the following:

1) provides guidance of research of problems of regional bibliography on a country-wide level, in the course of which the place of regional bibliography in the State STI system, as its subsystem or unit, is being examined. This will make it possible to regulate the regional information output on the national and regional levels. The development of a uniform concept is the main condition for the improving of the work of libraries in the satisfaction of regional demands in bibliographical information;

2) offers methodological assistance to libraries in the field of regional bibliography;

3) prepares series of bibliographical aids of general character according to regional aspects of socio/economic development of the USSR and foreign countries.

Currently the libraries of the country, under the auspices of the Lenin State Library, pay particular attention to the improvement of information support of the ideological activity of party and State bodies. This represents a direct response to the attention that was given by the 26th Congress of the CPSU to the question of raising the effectiveness of ideological activity in general. As in the aforementioned instances, the LSL exerts its influence on the libraries of the country through the elaboration of the theoretical concept, its methodological assistance and practical bibliographic activity, i.e. the preparation of appropriate aids. Owing to the Library a special subsystem of information publications, which supports ideological activity, is being created in the country and methods in this area are being continually improved.

Having taken on the duties of a specialized information centre in the early 70s, the LSL helped to establish departments of information on culture and art in the State libraries of the Union republics. The development and improvement by the Lenin State Library of both conventional (bibliographical) forms of information in this field and the non-conventional services (reviews and abstracts), based on the analytical/synthetical processing of the contents of domestic and foreign publications, brought about appropriate changes in the activities of republican libraries.

"Bibliotekovediniye i bibliografovediniye" ("Library Science and Bibliography Science") is one of the five series of current bibliography of domestic and foreign literature dealing with culture and art, published monthly. This series, together with collections of abstracts and analytical surveys

and express-information, favours the expansion of scientific knowledge of librarians and the popularization of advanced Soviet and foreign professional experience.

Contribution of LSL into the realization of the UAP programme

The Lenin State Library contributes to the implementation of the programme of universal availability of publications adopted by Unesco through its many-sided activity, which includes the placing of its own rich collections at the disposal of the public, development of progressive methods of organization of the national library system and of principles of the building up of collections, etc. Nevertheless, the most remarkable factor within this context, is the function of the centre of national and international library loan. The "Decree on the uniform State interlibrary loan system in the USSR" (1969) and an appropriate standard, adopted in 1981, officially consolidated the IL system in the USSR, which is based on the territorial principle and has an hierarchical structure. The "Decree on the international interlibrary loan "was also passed. These documents reinforced the role of the LSL as of a coordinating centre in this field and the specialized IL centre for socio-political sciences, history of literature and art and linguistics.

Already today the activities of the LSL in its capacity of a national IL centre are prominent enough, but in the future its role of the final and highest unit in the library service system of the USSR will become stronger.

The main task of the LSL, as of the international IL centre, is to ensure the satisfaction of demands of Soviet

readers for foreign literature lacking in the country and the demands of foreign users for Soviet publications. The volume of work in this area is continually growing. The Library satisfies more than half of the demands coming in from foreign borrowers, on the basis of its own collections.

It is extremely important for the LSL, the central library and the final unit in the country's library system, to have an efficient reference service, union catalogues first of all. This service makes it possible to correctly redistribute the demands among agencies, which belong to the State STI system. The union card catalogues of foreign books and periodicals, maintained by the Library, cover collections of 500 and information centres.

In 1973 the LSL put out the index "Union catalogues in the USSR", which contained information on union catalogues (card and printed) beginning with the 19th century. It also takes part in the publication of the printed union catalogue of foreign literature received by the largest libraries of the country, which was prepared with the help of computers by the State Public Library for Science and Technology of the USSR.

Automation as a perspective way of consolidating interaction between the LSL and library networks

The computerization of library procedures by all NL is considered to be a means, which helps to raise the level of activities of the NL themselves and increases their influence upon other libraries of the appropriate state. The Lenin State Library has been commissioned to develop a uniform concept of the State automated library system. It combines the centralization of auto-

mation of such processes, that have a significance for all library networks in general and of those procedures which need to be computerized in order that the departmental and territorial library networks would function more effectively.

To the processes of general significance foremostly belong the preparation of the national bibliography and central cataloging of domestic literature.

Apart from catalogue cards, libraries can receive bibliographical descriptions on magnetic tape.

Processes of composite thematic planning and coordination of the publication of domestic printed matter, as the basis of centralized acquisition of library networks, have already been computerized. The State automated system of subscription to serial publications is now being developed.

A uniform computerized reference system of foreign publications, received by different libraries of the country, is already in operation. The largest special libraries are members of this system and it is the central reference mechanism of the interlibrary loan system.

The automated system (AS) of the Natural Sciences Library of the USSR Academy of Sciences, which covers over 200 libraries and research institutes of the Academy, located in Moscow and a number of branches, can be cited as an example of a departmental library AS. Procedures of acquisition and processing are computerized. Each library receives the literature it needs accompanied by a set of catalogue cards from the central library. The Library provides scientists with an information service on the basis of data of the VINITI (All-Union Institute of Scientific and Technical Information), combining information/bibliographical service in the SDI mode with the delivery of

requested primary sources. Processes of the IL within the network, management of the library network and analytico-statistical procedures are also performed with the help of a computer. The AS of the Natural Sciences Library has been recommended as a model for other departmental systems.

Much attention is given to the automation of library technology in the libraries of regions. As a rule on the regional level the automation of library and information processes is combined. A good example of a regional AS is the Lithuanian SSR, where automation of library processes is carried out in correlation with the information system. The State Public Library for Science and Technology, Siberian Division of the USSR Academy of Sciences (the methodological centre for libraries of Siberia), when developing its AS takes into account the needs of libraries of the region. A uniform AS for libraries of Siberia is being created on the basis of this library.

In the international survey "NL in State and international library and information systems" (of which the LSL is coordinator), the concept of automation of processes of interaction of NL of the socialist countries is being developed. The first step in this direction is the creation of a uniform system of information on periodicals of the capatalist and developing countries, received by the member states.

While attaching great importance to all activities connected with the development of computer technique, the Lenin State Library does not weaken conventional methods of work, on the contrary it reinforces them so that they can be combined with automation more effectively.

Role of the ISL in the creation of a scientific basis for the organization of the library system

In its capacity of the leading scientific institution of librarianship, the LSL actively stimulates the content and organization of activities in the field on a country-wide scale. As mentioned earlier, it prepares composite coordinated long-term plans of scientific research, the aim of which is to avoid the possible duplication of activity and to concentrate the efforts of leading libraries on the solution of the most urgent problems in the appropriate period.

The impact of the Lenin State Library on scientific research in the field of librarianship is connected with the fact that it focuses its attention mainly on collective forms of research.

The subjects of research are large-scale social problems, which favour the consolidation of theoretic fundamentals of librarianship and the raising of its effectiveness. Among these problems are the summarization of the experience of Soviet library development and the analysis of current library practice in the light of V.I.Lenin's concept of librarianship as of a social phenomenon; survey of reading and readers' interests; natural laws governing the building up of collections; the study of the role of libraries in the communist education of the working people and in scientific and technical progress.

Currently the LSL has, according to a uniform All-Union programme, launched a number of regional studies with the aim of more fully revealing territorial and national distinctions and specific features in terms of library service of the population, the regulation of the rate and proportions of development

of library resources in different regions of the country.

In recent years attention is mainly focused on centralized research activities, the programme and strategy of which is developed by the NL. Under the guidance of the LSL scores of libraries, belonging to different library networks, participate in the realization of centralized study programmes.

Going by the experience of centralized research, the Lenin State Library is developing a new method of planning collective studies of complex problems - the programmatic and purposeful approach. This technique is particularly important and perspective for the national library as of a methodological centre because it permits the joining into a single whole of all components of the programme of a study, beginning with the idea and ending with its realization.

Like other scientific institutions, the LSL is a large publishing agency and its publications appreciably contribute to the further development of the Soviet library system. The Library puts out theoretical journals "Sovetskoye bibliotekovedi-niye" ("Soviet Librarianship") 6 issues a year) and "Bibliotekovedeniye i bibliografiya zar rubezhom"("Librarianship and Bibliography Abroad"; 5 issues a year). Annually the LSL publishes its "Trudy..." ("Transactions...") each volume of which reflects the results of studies of certain large-scale problems, conducted by the Library, such as, for example, the problem of collection-building, information retrieval systems, history of book printing, sociology and psychology of reading. Materials dealing with the study of manuscript collections are published in "Zapiski otdela rukopissey" ("Transactions of the Manuscript Department"). The results of studies dealing with different problems are published

in thematic collections of scientific works. Apart from scientific materials, the LSL puts out methodological and bibliographical publications of different kinds. On the whole, the Library prepares approximately 400 titles of works for publication, the total volume of which is about 2 thous. printer's sheets (1 p.s. = 24 pages of typescript). In conclusion it should be observed that one of the most characteristic features of the activity of LSL in aid of other libraries is that its content and organization ~~xfxik~~ is in keeping with the large-scale social tasks of today. One such task, put forward by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, is the accelerated development of the districts of Siberia and the Far East in the coming decade, a task that calls, among other things, for heightened concern for the satisfaction of the demand in books of the population of these regions. In order that libraries of all systems and other institutions should consistently and purposefully take part in solving this problem, the LSL has worked out a complex programme of scientific and methodological assistance offered to the libraries of Siberia and the Far East, which takes into account the specific features of these regions.

In prospect the raising of the effectiveness of the activity of the library system on the bais of all-round development and the consolidation of tendencies for integration, that exist within it, will continue to be the most important task of the LSL and the NL of other socialist countries. The solution of this problem is impeded in many things by the weakness of the legal basis of cooperation on different levels and the lack of documents, lucidly regulating the joint activities of libraries, information bodies and archives. The international comparative

study "NL in State and international library and information systems" is aimed at the creation of models of interaction of the main directions of the activity of the NL with other units of the bibliothecal/information systems. This study will be carried out in 1981-1988 by the LSL together with the NL of some other socialist countries.

The results of this project, as the entire multi-aspect activity of the Lenin State Library and the national libraries of other socialist countries, will heighten the organizing role of the NB as of the main library of a country, which contributes towards the uniting of different library networks into a single uniform system.

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